canadian camping

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The format might be different... but the intent is still the same... to keep those involved in the camping profession in Canada up to date and informed. Costs have forced us to look carefully at ourselves (probably a very good thing from time to time)... and so the Camping Association hopes that this issue in its present form will have appeal and be of interest to everyone. Please let us know your thoughts...., give us your comments.... and support your Association with articles.

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ACROSS CANADA

The British Columbia Association has been given some money! The money was found through a generous foundation grant, and is being used to hire a full time Field Co-ordinator, in the person of Allan Whidden. We welcome Allan to the camping field in Canada, confident that his specific responsibilities in B.C. will surely have very positive effects in other parts of our country. Allan's first task will be to co-ordinatee a B.C. priority... namely, to work with Provincial Health Authorities in revising the Health Act to include year round and family camping.

Three Provincial Associations will be hosting members of the C.C.A. Board of Directors. The first will be in Saskatoon, November 5th and 6th, following meetings of the Board in that city. Highlights of the Saskatchewan Conference, organized by Marg Pezderic and a very active committee will be: Training programmes for leaders; Techniques for evaluating camp programme; Motivating staff; Clothing, cold weather attitudes and survival kits; Budgets and budget controls; Inter-camp radio communications; Promoting camps in the wintertime; Staff communication skills; Acclimatization; developing a Board of Directors; amd Interviewing techniques.

The Ontario Camping Association will be responsible for organizing a Conference in Sault St. Marie, January 19-23, and the final meeting of the present Board will be in Squamish, B.C. around the end of April. While in these various centres, members of the Board will be providing resource material for members of each of the Associations.

The Newfoundland Association is excited about an upcoming meeting of camping and outdoor enthusiasts.... led by those leaders from that Province who attended the C.C.A. Woodsmanship School this summer. Nice to see "The Word" being spread throughout the Country!

News and Views (cont.)

Ontario is pleased with the response it is getting to their weekend workshop, October 29-31, for Directors and Senior Staff. The topic for this year's meeting in "To-day's Child" ... Their needs and Our needs. A report of this meeting will be available to C.C.A. members through "Canadian Camping".

Two more conferences of note... this time in Alberta. The Annual Alberta Camping Association Seminar will take place February 3, 4, and 5, and soon after this, the Alberta Teachers Association Outdoor Education Council Conference will be held.

The University of Calgary is yet another institution in which the Faculty of Physical Education has a programme which allows a student to specialize in Outdoor Education. If you are interested in more information, Dr. George Kinnear is the contact person.

The Provincial Board of the Quebec Camping Association is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Raymond Hade as Executive Director of the ACQ-QCA. Raymond, who replaces Gil Cardinal, has extensive camping experience in his Province and should be well qualified to take a very active role in Quebec, and indeed in Canadian camping. Other good news from Quebec..., The High Commission of Leisure and Sports has provided funds to ACQ-QCA so that a full time person may be hired to set up Provincial training programmes in camping.

An important meeting of the New Brunswick Association will be held just about the same time as the publication of this issue of the Magazine... It's a Camp Administrators Workshop, being held in Bathurst, October 15-17. (Bi-lingual as well!!!) Organizers are Geraldine LeBel, Rene Gagnon, Tim Easley, and of course, Philip Giberson. One interesting comment from New Brunswick... Hebertisme continues to grow in many camps... due to the tremendous influence of Claude Cousineau's book on the subject.

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HINTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR "CLOSING UP" YOUR CAMP

by Eanswythe Flynn

BLANKETS - cupboards lined with metal or wire window screening, or trunks securely fastened (tin trunks are excellent), are the only places to keep blankets, pillows, linens, washable rugs, mats, woolens and clothing.

CANNED GOODS - always store in the city if there is no warm room available in the North country. Never use after freezing. As a rule, however, tins burst on freezing.

CANOES - should be stored keel-up, after being thoroughly cleaned, washed inside and dried. Support at bow and stern thwarts to prevent warping. Check for repairs in the fall. If necessary have heavy repairs done by experts in the district during winter.

CABINS - if cabins....and other buildings are constructed on concrete pads and blocks, they should be thoroughly checked each spring. Heavy frosts shift the blocks, a situation that can twist and tilt the structures to a dangerous position. In any building where long spans occur, temporary studs (logs) should be inserted between floor beams to provide support against heavy snow loads. These can be quickly knocked out in the spring. Arrangements should be made with a local caretaker to remove exceptional roof snow loads during the winter months.

CHIMNEY - cover the chimney with screening to keep out birds and bats.

DIVING BOARDS - store flat, indoors.

DOCKS - get sound advice for each type of dock. Store in a protected area away from the prevailing winds, until after ice break-up.

EAVESTROUGHING - should be cleaned regularly in the fall. Accumulations of leaves and evergreen needles can be the cause of an increase in roof leaks and deterioration.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS - should be thoroughly checked and referred to fire safety firms for storage and re-charging.

FLASHLIGHTS - the cases remain, but batteries must be removed. Check bulbs in the spring.

GASOLINE, COAL OIL OR STOVE OIL - may be left stored in a place approved by the Fire Marshall - a place removed from other storage items.

HOLES - look for the tiniest crack or hole in woodwork, walls or floors. Fill with putty or plaster or paris mixed with cayenne pepper or mustard (powdered).

HOT WATER BOTTLES - may be left hanging upside down, the stopper tied with a length of cord to the top loop of the bottle.

LIQUIDS - vinegars will survive, providing the bottles are only two-thirds full. Honey will also survive low temperatures for years. However, all other liquids including juices, soft drinks, syrups, flavourings, concentrates should be removed to warm storage places or returned to the city.

MATTRESSES - should be left on beds, sprinkled generously with naphtha flakes and cedar fronds or powdered camphor. As heat causing combustion forms in the center of a stack of piled mattresses, our Fire Department advisors tell us never to stack them for storage, whether it be in the summer or the winter.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES - all drugs should be carefully examined to determine whether or not there is an expiry date. If in doubt, check with your local pharmacist. Throw out all drugs whose dates have expired. All medications, drugs and pills ..... especially liquids should be re-

Hints and Suggestions (cont.)

turned to the city. Pills and tablets deteriorate and crumble. Adhesive perishes. Absorbent cotton and gauze make great homes for mice.

MICE - mice and squirrels can cause havoc and every precaustion should be taken to discourage their presence. They do not like the strong odours of naphtha flakes, spices, red and black pepper, moth balls, cedar branches, oil of cedar or citronella. Sprinkle these on the floors. Naphtha flakes and cedar boughs can go on the mattresses. Also sprinkle chloride of lime powder over the cabin floors only, Mice won't walk on it! In the spring, merely wash out the cabins with clear hot water and you have a good disinfectant.

MOTORS AND MOTOR BOATS - follow the instructions of the manufacturer.

OFFICE SUPPLIES - envelopes, packaged or not, will automatically seal. Letterhead and copy papers can stay if they are flat and dry, with a weight or a large book covering the 8 X 10 area. Marking pens, felt pens, Scripto or Bik pens deteriorate. Bottled inks and Scotch Tape survive. Stamp pads need only re-inking for the new season. Craft paper, newsprint, bristol board, and construction paper must be stored flat on the floor or table top, in a mouse proof room, with the corners weighted down to prevent curling.

PAINTS - store in a warm building or bring them to the city; this includes varnish, shellac, solignum, and tubes of artists paint.

PAINT BRUSHES - thoroughly clean with one of the new instant cleaners immediately after use. There is no hope once they have hardened, frozen and melted. Soak in turpentine or varsol, rinse in detergent, then clear warm water. Hang by a string to dry in the sun. Failing that, try Tri-Sodium Phosphate or hot vinegar, rinse in detergent suds and follow the above drying procedure. Wrap in newspaper for storage.

PIANO - a mildly warm room with an even temperature makes an ideal storage place; but an even temperature, cold or warm is the basic need. It is surprising to find that they survive severe cold. Move the instrument from an outside wall, if possible, and the secret is never cover a piano. Blankets or any other covering hold dampness to ruin strings, felts and wood. A cup of powdered camphor will discourage mice.

PIT TOILETS - spread fire place ashes to a thickness of one or two inches on the "mass". This does a great job breaking down and eliminating odour.

PROPANE - turn off taps of outdoor tanks which can be left as they are during the winter.

RAGS - those used for paint, oils or gas must be taken to the local garbage dump. If put in the incinerator, oily rags form one of the greatest fire hazards.

ROW BOATS - store keel up, thoroughly dried, with a piece of 4 X 4 or cordwood under bow and stern to prevent warping.

RUGS - remove them from the floor. Mice tear them apart. Threads and tufts form a perfect interior for mice nests.

SADDLES AND LEATHER GOODS - all leather goods should be well saddle soaped before hanging. Never use floor wax or liquid furniture wax. Proppert's and Goddard's Saddle Soaps are best.

SAIL BOATS - throughly clean and dry out bottoms. Boats should be turned upside down and rested evenly on stringers placed at the coaming, the bow and the stern. Masts should be placed on three levelled supports to rest evenly and to prevent warping.

SMALL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS - should be taken to the city if heated accomodation is not available

STAPLES, DRY - flour, sugar, powdered milk, dry cereals, potatoe flakes, and dehydrated vegetables may be stored in tightly sealed pails or in a heavy plastic garbage pail, used for this purpose only.

(cont. on back page)

Reg Blackstock writes about Don Smith

Don Smith was at home in the wilderness, whether it was the bush and lake country, the plains, or the mountains. He loved them all, and what is more, he taught hundreds of others the skills and attitudes so that they, too, could find the satisfaction and pleasures of camping and tripping in and over them.

Organized camping, the Cubs and Scouts, the YMCA-YWCA and Church Camps got the benfit of his leadership and teaching. Don was very active in the Alberta Camping Association and through it, in the Canadian Association of which he was President 1963-1965. He recognized the need for good, well-trained staff for all kinds of camps. He was one of the first people to establish courses in camping at the university level

From his own experiences he knew that camping need not be confined to the summer months. School children could have resident outdoor education experiences during the school year. This led to the establishment of university courses for teachers-in-training which included practical experiences in tripping and winter camping. He joined others across the country who were like-minded, to set up the outdoor education committees in the various camping associations and the C.C.A.

Don was one of that small group of educators, spread across the country, who took up from the pioneer leaders who looked upon camping as a complimentary part of the education of children. He knew that camping provides vivid learning experiences; that the risk-laden adventure is a strong motivator to sharpen skills; and that stressful activities enhance self-knowledge and self confidence.

The camp setting and group living it made possible, were major values he sought for all from the camping experience. He urged educators to add outdoor education to the curriculum. Leadership preparation for it was added to courses at colleges of education.

This quiet man with his dry wit and quick smile, has left a lot of blazes on the trails for us to follow. Don's vigorous, sustained effort to extend camping to more and more people set us an example. He recognized that urban living cuts us off from the earth where, our roots are, and from which we draw so much "big medicine".

He had a great reverence for all of life, especially people. He urged us all to seek out the wonder and the awe and the beauty which are to be found in nature. All his life he sought to have others find this beauty and share it, on the trails and around the camp-fires.

We will all miss Don Smith. His place at the trail fire and the council fire in many places will be vacant. But we will recall his tall tales and fabulous exaggerations. Mostly our hearts will be warmed again by our memories of a great companion on the trails. He left the campsite better than he found it and us better campers from our associations with him.

KANAWA INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF CANOES, KAYAKS AND ROWING CRAFT

Following extensive negotiation with this institution and the Museum of American Indian-Heye Foundation, ten kayaks, twelve dug-outs, eleven bark canoes and eleven miscellaneous canoes were made available to the Kanawa Foundation, on the understanding that special care would be taken to preserve, restore and display the collection. This has expanded the Kanawa collection to three hundred or more, and has necessitated expansion of the log house used for display.

A Log Construction School under the tutelage of Alan Mackie of Prince George, B.C. and Paul McNab of Ignace, Ontario resulted in excellent progress

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To-day's Records are To-morrow's Archives

By Adele Ebbs

In 1967 official collecting and sorting of camping records was started by a small group, all of whom are still involved, and now there are concerned people in every provincial association. We have been fortunate in finding a home for our Canadian Camping Archives at Trent University in Peterborough. Their Department of Canadian Studies is very supportive of our efforts. You should see its location.... every window looks out on the Otonabee River with its ever changing moods.. once used by Indians and explorers to penetrate the depth of our forests.

Since the Canadian Camping Archives Committee was established in 1973, made up of representatives from each province, the biggest thrust has come from the first Geneva Park Conference when all the contributions to the media room were later turned over to the Archives. Following that, the Board of the C.C.A. met in Peterborough and had a first hand look at the collection. This October the Society of Camp Directors is holding its semi-annual meeting at the University, one of the purposes of the meeting is to explore the Archives.

The Archives at Trent are National, and I hope each province has made a good start on storing their own papers in a systematic fashion, including all committee reports and files representing every camp. At the Quebec Board meeting last spring a long list of camp pioneers was drawn up and agreement was reached by the Provincial Presidents that their associations would start taping oral biographies of those people. It is an arduous and costly task, but well worth the effort, and it must be done NOW! The Trent Archivist will make a copy and return the original.

The first and very valuable contribution of papers came from F.M. Van Wagner who was C.C.A. President 1958-60. From these papers we have many records of the early days of our Association, but we need more. Other President's papers have been promised, but few have arrived at the archives so far. Such national papers belong at Trent. We'll pay the cost of delivery, and I hope that each provincial archivist will help by locating all pertinent papers and sending them on to: Mr Kenneth Johnson, Archivist, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario K9I 7B8

THE WOODSMANSHIP INSTRUCTOR SCHOOL

Perhaps more properly the title should be " land pusuits leadership school"! The interpretations associated with the word woodsmanship have been somewhat misleading in the early stages of the project's development.

Following two experimental schools held in Ontario, the idea was offered as a National programme in which delegates from each province were brought together with a view to transplanting the concept to other regions. One purpose of the National School, then, was to inspire a group of leaders who would conduct such programmes in their own areas.

The idea emerged as the result of a long career in the National Canoe Instructor Schools where it became obvious that attention should be paid to the consequences of canoe travel. In short, it becomes the responsibility of wilderness travellers to be fully aware of the consequences of such encounters for the natural environment. Knowing what these are should have a bearing on a more positive approach to the art of communicating such skills and pursuits to other people. Some practical opportunities were provided in order to cultivate various leadership styles. Finally, a strong "ethic of the land" theme persisted throughout in order to help the candidates to be sensitive to ways in which the principle of "wise use without abuse" could be honestly respected. This element was fundamental to the purpose of the school.

With key people from across the nation the school was bound to be a

very attractive project. The ideas and skills that were exchanged in the process captured the imagination of both instructors and students. To be sure, a follow up with one more encounter of the nature indicated would help significantly to assure the transplant.

If assistance funding can be arranged, a summary will be produced. The information shared at the school must be made available to outdoor leaders across the nation.

THE NATIONAL CANOE INSTRUCTOR SCHOOLS

The National School system continued to thrive with minor adjustments in the 1976 season. Introduction of a summer school at the University of Ottawa marks the most significant innovation for the current season. This was done to accommodate candidates who found it impossible to attend the June offerings.

Some disparity appears to exist across the nation in the demand that is indicated in different regions. In Ontario, for example, there are never enough places for the number of applications submitted, while in Western Canada the situation reveals a balance between supply and demand for courses.

The availability of instructors for the National Schools has been more and more encouraging. It was the hope of the founders that ultimately this would be the case.

Some significant possiblities are emerging for future schools. Precourse skill workshops have been suggested so that candidates can concentrate more on the communication, teaching, instructing and learning side of the programme. Consideration of weekend sections of the total course seems reasonable to allow teachers and others who cannot be released for a 12 day period to take the course. Such a system would also allow candidates to upgrade their standings from assistant to full instructor. In short, credit could be given for each of five sections with requirements related to each one.

With the introduction of the new levels of achievement currently being proposed through the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association, the National Schools will make some content adjustments. At the same time some alteration in the priorities within the National Schools appears desirable. In addition, the production of new materials to accommodate these adjustments also stands on the threshold. In the interim, it is hoped that those who represent canoe interests in Canada will co-operate in the steps being taken to ensure that the best possible results accrue for paddlers everywhere!

Kanawa Museum (continued from p.5)

on the extention, with wide student interest in this type of building construction, so soon becoming a lost art. The school was well attended, the participants making a generous contribution to the raising of the building.

Public events sponsored by the Kanawa Museum included a journey to the Olympics in Voyageur costume in the 36 ft. Montreal Canoe; provision of the Montreal Canoe for the French Festival held at Detroit as part of the U.S.A. Bi-centennial Celebrations; participation in the Barrie-Orilla-Kempenfeldt Bay Festival with a display of historic canoes and kayaks, with involvement of both Montreal and the North canoes with paddlers in costume.

The Kanawa Museum is the only one of its kind in the world.

A WILDERNESS DILEMMA

A discussion arose at the September O.C.A. Board Meeting in which concern was voiced regarding the number of accidents occurring in adventurous outdoor activities; this, because participants are not properly prepared by those who offer such programmes. It was felt that such a situation is grossly unfair to allow individuals or groups to engage in hazardous pursuits without careful examination of their current qualifications.

A young man of twenty-five recently perished on a western river when his canoe capsized. The Package Tour in which he invested, included a flight to the West and a run down a river to a rendezvous spot. He was given a helmet and a water-ski belt and sent on his way by canoe with a friend, but no second canoe to accompany the pair in strange country.

The trauma created by this tragedy was extraordinary. But the further tragedy is that this is not a single or isolated occurence. The time has come, surely, when those who give leadership in the out-of-doors will take a stand to ensure proper preparation and supervision of those who seek the benefits of out-door encounters. Overall, the out-door movement is a highly desirable one which can contribute much to the development of the nation. However, mismanagement at this crucial stage of development may lead to unfortunate negative results, if such wilderness treks and trips are not controlled intelligently in the very near future.

Hints for "closing" (cont. from p. 4)

TOOLS - oil lightly and store, wrapped in cloth.

WASHING MACHINES - drain and check the hose from the pump. Place it downwards in a position so that it can be completely emptied. Check under trays for any water remaining. If in doubt, call in the plumber.

WATER SYSTEM - drain entire system thoroughly, particularly storage tanks. If there is no local man who can do the work it is worth the cost to bring in a plumber.

WAX AND OILS - floor wax, linseed oil, machine oils, Hippo oil and other cleaning oils may remain at the camp.

WINDOWS - cover or camouflage them with a blanket, tarp, canvas or even newspaper if necessary. Grouse, partridge and otherbirds will fly through clear glass.

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